

understand that people on this floor have probably had more of this discussion than they care to and want to get on with other things, and I understand all that. But I think if we are agreeing, if you are one of the people who are going to vote for The Conference of States, and send a delegation from Nebraska to The Conference of States, you should, at least, send them there with our feelings, our majority feelings on these issues that are going to be proposed. If you will look at the paper that I gave you on Michael Leavitt, he said, in his assessment, the first change that will be discussed is the state initiated amendment process where you invert the current process and allow as an alternative means of amending the Constitution thirty-eight states, he means thirty-four, he just didn't know what the correct number was, or it was reported wrong, to actually initiate an amendment instead of just the Congress. In his words, it levels the playing field because currently states cannot initiate amendments except at the extraordinary step of a constitutional convention. So he knows what the process is to change the Constitution of the United States, and he knows that it is an extraordinary process, and as well it should be an extraordinary process to amend the Constitution of the United States. We are talking about the document that we all exist under, that our country, the laws of this country are based on, that when you go to the Supreme Court for an opinion, this is the document that they look at. So it should be an extraordinary process. He is talking about inverting that process and allowing the states to initiate the amendment process. My amendment is saying that I don't agree that that should be done, and I don't agree that that change should be made, and I don't want our delegates that we send to be authorized to propose or approve an amendment like that that's asked for adoption at this Conference of States. It doesn't stop anybody from discussing it. I cannot understand why senators keep saying that we are going to hamstring them and we are not going to allow them to discuss it. I can't stop anybody from discussing anything in a free country, and I hope they do discuss some of these things so at least they know what they are voting on before they vote on it, and how they feel about it. What I want them to know is that when we put this language into the resolution that we are writing here, that how the majority in this body feels, because the majority in this body is not going to be there. Only six people are going to be there who Senator Withem and the Exec Board chooses to be there, and more than likely one of them will be Senator Chambers since Senator Beutler's amendment was adopted I believe, but I don't know who